Keeping Your Cat Indoors

It may seem natural to allow your cat to roam outdoors unsupervised. However, much like children, cats depend on us to recognize potential dangers and protect them from harm.

Many cats are rescued from the rough conditions of outdoor living and deserve to spend their remaining years indoors.

By keeping your cat indoors, you'll protect them from lethal risks such as:

- **TRAFFIC** Being hit by a vehicle can leave your cat very seriously injured or killed.
- **OTHER ANIMALS** Going outside can expose your cat to injuries from fights with other cats, dogs and wild animals; bite wounds tend to abscess and can prove fatal.
- **DISEASE** Even a vaccinated cat can contract serious diseases such as FIV (feline HIV) and Feline Leukaemia.
- **POISON** Cats can easily come into contact with poisonous substances; for example, antifreeze dripping from a car has a sweet taste but is lethal.
- **CRUELTY** Regrettably there are people who have no qualms about intentionally being cruel to animals.

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ACTION VOLUNTEERS FOR ANIMALS

Bring the Outdoors Inside

Here are a few things you can do to help your cat thrive inside:

- **PLANT AN INDOOR GARDEN**
  Purchase or grow a cat-friendly garden for your cat. This can include cat grass, catnip, and non-toxic herbs like parsley, mint and cat thyme. There are also safe plants like bamboo, Boston ferns and spider plants.

- **SET UP WINDOW PERCHES**
  Give your cat lots of perches near windows so they can keep an eye on outdoor activity. Cats love to watch birds and squirrels. Make sure window screens are secure to eliminate the possibility of your cat falling or pushing their way through the window.

- **ENGAGE IN PLAYTIME**
  Draw out your cat's natural hunting instincts through interactive playtime to help keep their mind and body engaged.
  Use a variety of feather wands and mouse toys to encourage their innate curiosity.